

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Feminist Fictions: Contemporary Women's Writing & the Politics of Feminism  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **6103ENGL** (122090)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

Owning School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science  
Teaching School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science

Team	Leader
Nadine Muller	Y

**Academic Level:** FHEQ6  
**Credit Value:** 20  
**Total Delivered Hours:** 35  
**Total Learning Hours:** 200  
**Private Study:** 165

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Tutorial	2
Workshop	33

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	1500 Word Literature Review	40	
Essay	AS2	3000 Word Research Essay	60	

### Aims

- 1. Extend students' understanding of contemporary women's fiction and its relationship to feminist theory, politics, and practice.*
- 2. Equip students with an advanced understanding of the complexity and diversity of the history of feminism and feminist theory from the 1960s to the present day.*

3. Enable students to critically interrogate the relationship between gender and genre through the study of contemporary women's fiction.

## Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Analyse and contextualise the texts studied on the module.
- 2 Critically evaluate the concept of feminist fiction and its relationship with feminist theory and practice.
- 3 Identify and critically reflect upon the thematic preoccupations of feminist fiction and non-fiction from the 1960s to the present day.

## Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

1500 Word Literature Review	1	2	3
3000 Word Research Essay	1	2	3

## Outline Syllabus

- 1 *Second-Wave Feminism: Sexual Politics*
- 2 *Doris Lessing, The Golden Notebook (1962)*
- 3 *Ain't I a Woman? Feminism & Race*
- 4 *Maya Angelou, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings (1969)*
- 5 *Theorising Gender & Sexuality: Feminism & Biology*
- 6 *Angela Carter, The Passion of the New Eve (1977)*
- 7 *Working Women: Feminism, Class, & Sex Work*
- 8 *Pat Barker, Blow Your House Down (1984)*
- 9 *Feminist Futures: Feminism, Utopia, & Dystopia*
- 10 *Margaret Atwood, Oryx & Crake (2004)*
- 11 *Postfeminism, Third-Wave Feminism & Feminist Historiography*
- 12 *Kate Walbert, A Short History of Women (2009)*

## Learning Activities

Close reading exercises  
Online research tasks  
Group discussion  
Class presentations

## Notes

Feminist Fictions is third-year option module available to all single and joint-honours English students. It aims are to expand students understanding of contemporary

feminist theory and politics, contemporary women's fiction, and the relationship between them. In doing so, the module encourages students to explore the relationship between gender and genre, as well as to question definitions of women's writing and feminist fiction. By tracing the history of women's fiction and of feminist theory and practice since the 1960s, students will develop their understanding of the intersections between gender, sexuality, race, and class in particular, while analysing how women writers have treated those concerns in the realm of fiction. To do so, the module reading alternates between fiction and non-fiction, allowing students to explore the intersections between women's feminist fiction and non-fiction.